forests play a large role in the scenic beauty of Harpswell, and are critical to the health and natural diversity of our community.

Local consulting forester Rob Bryan says that forestry is now driven by three overlapping considerations – economic feasibility, sustainability and social implications. The trick is in balancing those considerations, and that can be a major challenge in some areas. Fortunately the days of indiscriminate clear cutting have passed, at least in the US. Some people would prefer that timber harvests were strictly limited but this has its own long-term implications (think of all those deadly forest fires in the West, fueled by huge amounts of dead wood). The consensus view has become that forests are a vital, renewable resource, and if they are managed carefully they will produce a variety of valuable products, while protecting wildlife and sources of clean water. For those of us who love seeing a mix of wildlife, timber harvests can play a vital role in creating forest openings and regenerating new growth that support a wide range of species, each according to its desired habitat.

When planning a timber harvest, it is tempting to think of cutting the best trees to maximize your immediate financial

(Continued on page 6)
Collaboration Leads to Conservation Success
(continued from the front page)

2012 Town Meeting, Harpswell residents voted to authorize the selectmen to donate a conservation easement on 12.4 acres of the 14.5-acre property. The conservation easement limits development on the property forever, while allowing the town to sell it and thus return it to the tax rolls.

Otter Brook, which runs north from Mountain Road to the northern end of Ewing Narrows, is the longest stream in Harpswell and has considerable freshwater marsh abutting its southern half. The variety of habitats and lack of development are home to a diverse group of plant and animal species. The lands abutting Otter Brook, although privately owned, have been used traditionally for hunting, hiking, and cross country skiing.

The purpose of the easement is to forever conserve the undeveloped character of the property, preserve the ecological value of the Otter Brook corridor, and protect marine water quality in Ewing Narrows and Harpswell Cove, into which Otter Brook drains.

“The Hildreth Road property is another opportunity for Harpswell to further the preservation of our history. It has dense forest, diverse wildlife, natural flowing waters, and still has room for single family living,” said Harpswell Selectman Alison Hawkes. “It made sense to work with the Harpswell Heritage Land Trust to protect our natural resources for the future.”

The part of the property not covered by the conservation easement has frontage on Hildreth Road and is suitable for a single family home.

White Island

The White Island project results from a collaborative partnership to conserve ecologically valuable land in Middle Bay by three land trusts. HHLT received the $300,000 grant through the National Coastal Wetlands Conservation Grants Program, administered by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and channeled through the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries & Wildlife.

With this grant money, HHLT will purchase 16 acres of upland and 47 acres of intertidal wetlands from Julia Stevens. White Island is a 116-acre island with extensive intertidal wetlands and only seven developed lots. It is located in Middle Bay, between Mere Point and Harpswell Neck. The property to be protected has 3,287 feet of shore frontage and includes mudflats and eel grass beds that provide valuable habitat for wading birds, shore birds, water fowl, mussels, quahogs, and soft shell clams. The project also protects the water quality of Middle Bay and Casco Bay, thus protecting habitat for numerous plants and animals important to commercial and recreational fishing and to the marine food chain.

“This project demonstrates the effectiveness of strong conservation partnerships. Hopefully, working together with the State of Maine, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and the Coastal Wetlands Grants program, Maine Coast Heritage Trust and local land trusts can continue important conservation progress in Maquoit and Middle Bays,” said Keith Fletcher, Southern Maine Project Manager for Maine Coast Heritage Trust.

Harpswell Heritage Land Trust Board of Trustees
Charlie Johnson, President
Deirdre Strachan, Vice President
David Brown, Secretary
Keith Brown, Treasurer
John Boomer
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Tom Carlisle
Ron Davis
Alicia Heyburn
Bruce MacDougal
Mary Ann Nahf
Don Newburg
Sharon Oehmig
Ed Robinson

Staff:
Reed Coles, Executive Director
Julia McLeod, Outreach Coordinator

Contact HHLT
Harpswell Heritage Land Trust
PO Box 359
153 Harpswell Neck Rd
Harpswell, ME 04079
207-721-1121
info@hhltmaine.org
www.hhltmaine.org

Check out our new and improved website at www.hhltmaine.org!
Why do you volunteer for HHLT?

I volunteer for HHLT because I deeply believe in land conservation for future generations and educating people about protecting the land and understanding its ecosystems.

—Harriette Griffin

I love the mission of HHLT and the beauty of the conserved lands.

—Rich Knox

It’s the people I work with that are my incentive to volunteer.

—Anne Perry

Harpswell is the prettiest place we have ever lived. I’d like to keep it that way forever!

—Ed Robinson

To experience properties that I have not visited in awhile--having a volunteer work trip as an 'excuse' to get out is sometimes needed to get over my ever-increasing inertia to stay indoors. Once out, I always enjoy the place and people.

—Tony Barrett

I think the mailings are important, and it’s a pleasant and easy way to be of use.

—Hannah Dring

I volunteer for HHLT because I care about the natural environment that supports my community and they are the group that focuses on that issue. They make good use of my time and I feel valued.

—Alicia Pulsifer Heyburn

Thank you for your help!

Nancy Bennett, Marcia Blue, Marie Clarke, Jane Collins, Nellie Coulter, Lynda DeHaan, Kara Douglas, Harriette Griffin, Samuel Jamison, Sheila Karajin, John Loyd, Anne Perry, Alan Sawyer, Cynthia Sawyer, Maureen Soutter, Hannah Trowbridge, Katrina White, and Cynthia Wood.

HHLT volunteer opportunities: there’s something for everyone!

• Trail work or carpentry
• Mailings and other administrative tasks
• Writing or editing
• Photography
• Programs with kids, such as Nature Day Camp
• Planning or leading programs and events
• Providing refreshments for events
• Gardening
• Fundraising
• Carrying out the Land Trust’s mission by serving on a committee (programs, communications, development, stewardship, or lands)
• And much more!

If you’re interested in volunteering, contact Outreach Coordinator Julia McLeod at 207-837-9613 or outreach@hhltmaine.org. Or fill out a volunteer interest form at www.hhltmaine.org

Harpswell Community Garden at Mitchell Field

If you are looking for a sunny space protected from deer to grow your own organic vegetables and/or for a meaningful way to help produce wholesome food for Harpswell neighbors, join the Harpswell Community Garden at Mitchell Field.

The Harpswell Community Garden brings together a community of gardeners, both novice and experienced. The garden, which is located at Mitchell Field off Harpswell Neck Road, offers two sizes of rental plots, a Harpswell heritage orchard, and a Common Garden, where volunteers grow vegetables to donate to local people in need.

The garden is in its beginning years, and we need your input and support! Please let us know what you want from a community garden in Harpswell by taking a short survey at http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/C3FM8MC. You can learn more about renting a plot or volunteering at www.harpswell.maine.gov or by contacting Cyndy Bush at 725-2660 or bushcynthia@aol.com or Jane Covey at coveybrown@gmail.com or 725-5601.

The garden is sponsored by the Town of Harpswell and organized by a volunteer committee, with financial support from HHLT.
Welcome to our new members!

Tim Baribeau and Caroline Daunt
Pamela Berry and Douglas Warren
Marcia and Peter Blue
Clinton Cunningham
Lorraine and Terrence Fettas
Gregory Greenleaf
Vikki Howard
Jeanne and Scott Howe
Elizabeth Johnson
Gail Kass and Susan Horowitz
S.M. Kimball
Mionika Kirtland
Roger and Betty Landry
Mary and Tony Lennon
Mark and Mayumi Lunicke
Chris and Sue Livesay
Peter and Irene Martin
Paul McElwee
Julia and Andy McLeod
Shekelle and Stanley Moody
Diana Morris and Peter Shiras
Ronald Munger
Jane Murphy
Richard and Muriel Murphy
Joseph and Elizabeth Nelson
Jaqueline and Stephen Norman
Thomas and Rene Novak
William Oakes
Deborah Paine
Barbara Pike
Veree and Carol Pitman
Quahog Bay Nomine Trust
Guinilla Qvarfordt and Martin Eisenstein
Barbara Pike
Gregory and Patricia Rolfson
Robert and Margaret Rudin
Martin and Susan Shikmo
Robert and Barbara Simeone
Martin Sledge
Marybruce Standley
Jeffery Stamm
John and Kathy Stevens
Kenneth and Wendy Taubes
Lois Van Aken
Marcy Weeks
Kimball and Katrina White
Denise Williams
Gail William and Mary
David and Rosemary Wyman

Many thanks to our renewing members!

William and Cathy Abbott
Judith Adams
Steven and Bonnie Alcaide
Deane and Vivienne Aldrich
Tom and Nancy Allen
Charles and Persis Lee Ames
Sundee and Cecilia Amrute
Anne and Gareth Anderson
William and Lorna Appalachian
George and Deborah Barker
Hank and Cindy Baumgartner
Mary Beck
Anne Benauqust
Nancy and Arnold Bennett
Elizabeth Bergstrom
Jeffrey and Yolanda Berkowitz
Armond Bernier
John and Jane Berry
Jim and Joyce Bessen
Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Bettencourt
Jennifer Bichrest
Paola Biola
Henry and Hilde Bird
Peter and Christine Bisissas
Alexander Blachly
Stephen Black
Mr. and Mrs. Howard Bliss
Arthur and Elaine Boatin
Lee and Mark Bock
Herbert and Elizabeth Boerstling
Bret and Priscilla Bolduc
John Boomer
Margot Booth and Russell Pinkston
David and Leslie Bradbury
Sarah Brender
James Brokaw and Mollie Stellock
Robin and Jeanne Brooks
Margaret and Stephen Broughall
Herman Brown
Oliver and Eleanor Brown
Sarah Brown
Lynnie Bruce and Max Fletcher
Candice and Larry Finkle
Robert and Janet Buc
cyk William and Debra Bulkeley
James and Jean Burbine
Bruce Burnham
James Burns and Martha Nichols
Paul Burns and Kristin Jamb
Wendy and William Burns
Lisa and Tom Burrows
Cindy Bush
Sally and Samuel Butler
James and Renee Cabot
Robert and Christine Cahill
Marlis Cambon
Donald and Phyllis Campbell
Timothy Carney
Thomas and Karen Carlisle
Todd Carlisle
Franklin and Carolyn Carney
Joan Carney
Timothy and Angela Carroll
Forrest and Frances Caswell
Stephen and Joanne Caulfield
Rob Center and Kathryn Henry
Kent Chobator
James and Winnie Chia
Charles and Gerry Orem
William and Helene Chase
Elizabeth Childs
Curtis and Caroline Chipman
David and Kathie Chipman
Jean and John Chiquoine
Eric Chown and Rachel Beane
Ronald and Kristine Christensen
Richard and Lorraine Churchville
Ken Chutchian and Carol Coulter
John and Elisa Civello
Paul Clark
Marie Clarke
Linda Clement
Sally Clifford
Andre and Lydia Coocyut
Donna Coffin
Barry and Christine Coflan
Robert and Jane Cohen
Kristi Colburn and John O'Brien
Maxine Cole
Reed Coles
Bruce and Pauline Collette
Doug and Jean Collins
Tom and Yuko Conlan
Sally Connolly
Col. and Mrs. Arthur Connory
Susan Cook and Jeffrey Bates
John and Judith Cooper
Dr. and Mrs. Stephen Corson
Ann Cort
Anne and Leonid Cotton
Patrick and Joyce Coughlan
Patricia and Colby Currier
Robert and Lorraine Damterman
John and Peggy Daniel
Brenda and Richard Darcey
Peg Davey and Tom Zanzig
Frank and Ann Davidoff
Wendell and Margy Davidson
Monique and Mark Davies
Fred and Jane Davies
Heather and Bruce Davis
Ronald and Janet Davis
Robert and Jolanda de Levie
Ellen and Michael De Rosa
Jonathan and Ruth Dean
Lydia Delman
Ned and Zella Dewey
Dipper Cove Association
Tony Dixon and Sandra Clark
W Dixon and Susan Riley
John and Mary Anne Doherty
John Donovon and Family
Vivian and Ted Donley
Craig and Kara Douglas
Mary Ann and Ken Douglas
Hannah Dring
Darcy Dye
Honor Edgerton
Dr. Robert Ehrmann
Richard and Betty Eismen
Sheila Ekman and Judy Marino
John and Diane Emmerson
Ingeborg Ender and Juem Jurgen
Michelle Eovine and Alison Moore
John and Bridget Esquiro
Gisela and Paul Estes
Lillian Everhart
Leonna Feeney
Robert and Joelle Feldman
Jon Fernans and Ruth Hartman
David and Jane Fey
Jeremy and Christine Fischer
Raymond and Louise Fisher
Peter and Linda Flintner
Teresa Flanagan and Hope Milton
Kimberly Flood
Kate Flora and Ken Cohen
John and Lorna Flynn
Ellen Frank
Robert and Marta Frank
Tulie Franzor and Rob Bryan
Leonard and Terry Freeman
Jane Furbeck-Owen and Tom Owen
Patrick and Rebecca Gallery
Edward and Pamela Galvin
David Gardner
Mike and Mesha Gers and Hannah Trowbridge
John and Lile Gibbons
Rev. Bricker and Carolyn Gibbons
Edward and Katherine Gilfillan
Robert and Margaret Gill
Dana and Riko Haddan
Winthrop and Linda Gillis
John and AM Goldfrank
Jerry and Sharon Goldsmith
Ron and Noel Yacobian Golz
Hubbard and Katherine Goodrich
Fayk and Nancy Goodwin
Jane Gott
Anne Goulart and Paul Campbell
Joe and Laura Grady
Patty and Allan Graves
Terry and Francesca Gray
John and Jean Green
Toby and Mary Green
Maryn Greenhut
Charles and Patricia Gregory
Peter and Harriette Griffin
George and Vera Griggs
William Grimes
Gareth Gunn
Richard and Catherine Gutman
Jonathan and Rikio Haddan
Spike and Amy Hable
Martin Haines
Lois and Douglas Hale
Nor Hall and Roger Hale
James Hamilton
John and Virginia Hamilton
John and Scatt Scott Cowger
Harpwell Heritage Apples
Edward and Nadia Harris
Mr. and Mrs. James Harvie
Dorothy Hassfield
Hope Haug
Eric and Deborah Hawkins
Jennifer and Hayden Haver
Daniel and Linda Hiebert
Michael and Roberta Helfgott
June Hemberger
Julie and Larry Hendrickson
Malcolm and Constance Henry
Johanne Herdegen
Kathryn Herold
Matthew Herold
Roger and Charlotte Horan
Henry and Alcyia Huyck
Stephen and Debra Hymal
Peter and Barbara Hill
Peter and Candis Hine
Fred and Nancy Holler
Ed and Sherry Holt
Norbert and Helen Host
Daniel and Christine Hruby
Hugh and Carol Hulett
Paul Hunfek and Jenny Hunter
Thomas and Constance Hurlburt
Charles and Louise Hurley
Wayne and Nancy Hurley
Karen and Robert Jacobson
Charles and Gale Jacobson
Charles and Julie Jacobson
Dexter and Gretchen Wickwire
Hanna Kane
Robert and Patricia Kapačin
William and Judy Kao
Charles and Mylissa Karet
Sheila Kariain
A.W. and Barbara Karu
Polly Kaufman
Catherine Kelley
Mr. and Mrs. John Kelley
Marguerite Kelley and Barry
John and Marilyn Kerchick
Stephen and Kelly Kettler
Margery Kerr
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Kirby
Judith Kirby
Nicolaas and Nancy Kinsey
Guy Kittell and Catherine
George and Suzanne Kinn
Viola Knight
Bill and Elizabeth
Henry and Mary Korsia
Barbara Krakhardt
Phyllis Krag
Bradley and Michelle Krog
Richard and Joanne Kroeger
Nancy Kurz
Mary Lachi
Mr. and Mrs. Lindsey Lachter
John and Karen Langland
Winston and Nancy Lanza
Brian and Jessica Laster
Geraldine and David LeBlanc
Richard and Dayle Lavine
Peter and Ann Lebourdais
Ronald and Jean LeClaire
Richard and Thorne Lefke
Wendy Legg
Eileen Leighton
Joan Lester

Harpwell Heritage Land Trust 2012 and 2013 Members
Thank you for your support!

What we conserve stays conserved. Your legacy could last forever. Please consider HHLT as you plan for the future.
The Harpswell Family Outing Club is a collaborative project of the Harpswell Community Nursery School, Harpswell Recreation Department and Harpswell Heritage Land Trust. Our vision is to build community around enjoying the outdoors together. Monthly outings include hikes, stream and tide pool explorations, farm visits, and more. Join our group on Facebook or send an email to outreach@hhltmaine.org to join our email list.

Hey Kids and Parents: The Land Trust has programs for you!

Harpswell Family Outing Club
The Harpswell Family Outing Club is a collaborative project of the Harpswell Community Nursery School, Harpswell Recreation Department and Harpswell Heritage Land Trust. Our vision is to build community around enjoying the outdoors together. Monthly outings include hikes, stream and tide pool explorations, farm visits, and more. Join our group on Facebook or send an email to outreach@hhltmaine.org to join our email list.

Nature Day Camp
July 15-19, 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
For children entering 2nd-6th grades
Fee: $75
Scholarships available
Join us to discover Harpswell's unique environment and varied habitats. Come with us to explore mud flats, beaches, tidal pools, the forest and a fresh water pond. Parents will need to drop children off at a different Harpswell location each day. Since 1998, HHLT's Nature Day Camp has provided kids with a week of fun and exploration. Download a registration form at: www.hhltmaine.org.
"My kids loved it...The program instilled an appreciation and sense of stewardship for Harpswell. Thank you!"

Sustaining Harpswell’s Forests
(continued from the front page)

The key to sustainability is to look at the big picture. Landowners all have personal objectives for their properties, but it helps to consider neighboring lands and the best use of each parcel in question. A series of thinning harvests every 10 years to remove young trees for wood pulp may be the most productive economic solution for one parcel. In other cases, the best choice may be to allow natural forces to “manage” an area over time, either to protect areas prone to erosion, or to secure critical habitat for threatened or endangered species.

Rob notes that in recent years we have seen positive examples of sustainable forestry in Harpswell. If you exit Route 24 by Harpswell Autos, drive down Long Reach Lane and cross the causeway over the marsh. You will be in the Austin Cary Lot, managed by the Baxter State Park Authority. This 222-acre parcel, on both sides of Long Reach marsh, is a demonstration area for modern forestry practices. Selective cuts have been done here twice in the last 25 years to improve the health and value of the trees left standing. Walking through these lovely woods you will see old stumps and a great deal of new growth, as mature trees spread their crowns and smaller trees fill in the gaps.

Driving south on Route 123, as you enter Harpswell, you will see on your left the rolling field that is part of Liberty Farm. Just to the south of the field is a nice stand of mixed pine and hardwoods where harvesting occurred this past winter. Rob said this was the second harvest of the property in the last 15 years. The first cut opened the forest canopy to allow in more light, triggering regeneration of many new seedlings. The current harvest was intended to remove the least desirable trees and to allow the best trees their optimal chance of healthy growth. With less competition for water and nutrients and more sunlight reaching the forest floor, the preferred canopy trees and the seedlings established in the first cutting will continue to flourish. This forest is protected forever under a conservation easement held by HHLT.

We are lucky to have so much healthy forest cover in Harpswell. As you drive our roads or walk our trails, take a minute to appreciate the beauty and diversity of our forests, along with the planning and effort necessary to keep them healthy for hundreds of years to come.
May

**Harpwell Family Outing Club trip to Two Coves Farm:** On **May 11 at 9:30 a.m.** join the Harpwell Family Outing Club for a trip to Two Coves Farm to visit the lambs and chicks. Learn about how to care for farm animals, take a tour of the farm, and watch a sheep dog demonstration. All ages welcome. Wear your boots. Two Coves Farm is located at 90 Neils Point Road in Harpswell. Park on Neils Point Road and walk up. Please do not pull into the driveway.

**Birding Extravaganza:** Through a collaboration with Brunswick-Topsham Land Trust, Kennebec Estuary Land Trust, and Merrymeeting Audubon, we’re offering six birding outings this spring. Check out www.hhltmaine.org for more information.

June

**Hike Harpwell Challenge:** The Harpswell Recreation Department’s National Trail’s Day celebration is on for **June 1 & 2, 2013.** Hiking, fun and prizes. For more information, visit www.harpwell.maine.gov.

**Horseshoe Crabs:** On **June 8 at 9 a.m.** at the Alfred Skolfield Preserve, join Tulle Frazer to learn about horseshoe crabs during their mating season. The preserve is located on the west side of Harpswell Neck Road north of the Brunswick/Harpswell town line. Since parking is limited, please meet at the HHLT office at 153 Harpswell Neck Road to carpool. Registration for this event is limited. Please pre-register to 837-9613 or outreach@hhltmaine.org. This event is co-sponsored by the Brunswick-Topsham Land Trust.

**Harpwell Family Outing Club Tide Pool Exploration:** On **June 15 at 9 a.m.** join HHLT’s Julia McLeod for a morning of exploration at Pott’s Point Preserve. To get there, take Harpswell Neck Road to its end and park by the side of the road. We will walk along private Pott’s Point Road to the preserve.

**Clams, Oysters, and Mussels:** Learn more about shellfish this summer, and try your hand at digging clams. Chris Heinig will talk about shellfish lifecycle and threats at HHLT’s office at 153 Harpswell Neck Road on **June 27 at 7 p.m.** We’ll get out on the flats for a clam digging workshop on **June 29.**

July

**Harpwell Family Outing Club Swimming and Games:** On **July 6 at 1 p.m.** join us for swimming and games at Stover’s Point Preserve. To get there, drive south on Harpswell Neck Road, pass the old West Harpswell School then turn left on Stover’s Cove Road. Turn right on Stover’s Point Road and follow it to its end.

**Annual Meeting:** See back of newsletter for more information.

**Sunset Cruise in Middle Bay:** Join us on the water to take in the breathtaking scenery of Middle Bay. Enjoy the wild shorelines of Harpswell’s Islands. Keep an eye out for seals, dolphins, eagles, shore birds, and more. Enjoy tasty snacks, wine, beer and soft drinks aboard the Island Romance. Chat with friends, listen to live music, and learn about land protection projects in Middle Bay.

Support the work of HHLT by joining us for our first sunset cruise in Middle Bay on **July 23 from 6:15-8:15 p.m.** We will leave from the Dolphin Marina and

August

**Harpwell Family Outing Club Hike:** On **August 10 at 9:30 a.m.** join us for a hike at Long Reach Preserve. Park at the Trufant-Summerton Ball Field on Harpswell Islands Road, around three miles south of the Brunswick town line.

**Birding Extravaganza:** Through a collaboration with Brunswick-Topsham Land Trust, Kennebec Estuary Land Trust, and Merrymeeting Audubon, we’re offering six birding outings this spring. Check out www.hhltmaine.org for more information.

**Wednesday Walkers Come to Harpwell:** Join the Wednesday Walkers for a hike in Harpswell on **September 11 at 9:30 a.m.** (Location TBD).
Hear About the Maine Island Trail Association at HHLT’s Annual Meeting

You’re invited to HHLT’s Annual Membership Meeting on Tuesday, July 16 at the Elijah Kellogg Church Fellowship Hall at 917 Harpswell Neck Road in Harpswell. Our featured speaker will be Brian Marcaurelle, who will talk about “The Maine Island Trail at Twenty-Five.”

Enjoy stunning coastal photos and hear the story of how the Maine Island Trail grew from humble beginnings to become one of America’s preeminent water trails.

The Maine Island Trail Association (MITA) is dedicated to the protection and enjoyment of the wild islands of Maine. As managers of America’s first recreational water trail, MITA promotes responsible use and volunteer stewardship on more than 200 coastal islands and mainland sites that comprise the Maine Island Trail.

Doors open at 6:30 P.M. There will be refreshments and door prizes. Brian’s presentation will follow a short business meeting at 7 p.m.

The Board of Trustees will be asking HHLT members to consider a change to the Land Trust’s by-laws. Please see the insert in this newsletter for more information.

Camping is a popular activity on Crow Island (Kenny Robinson photo)